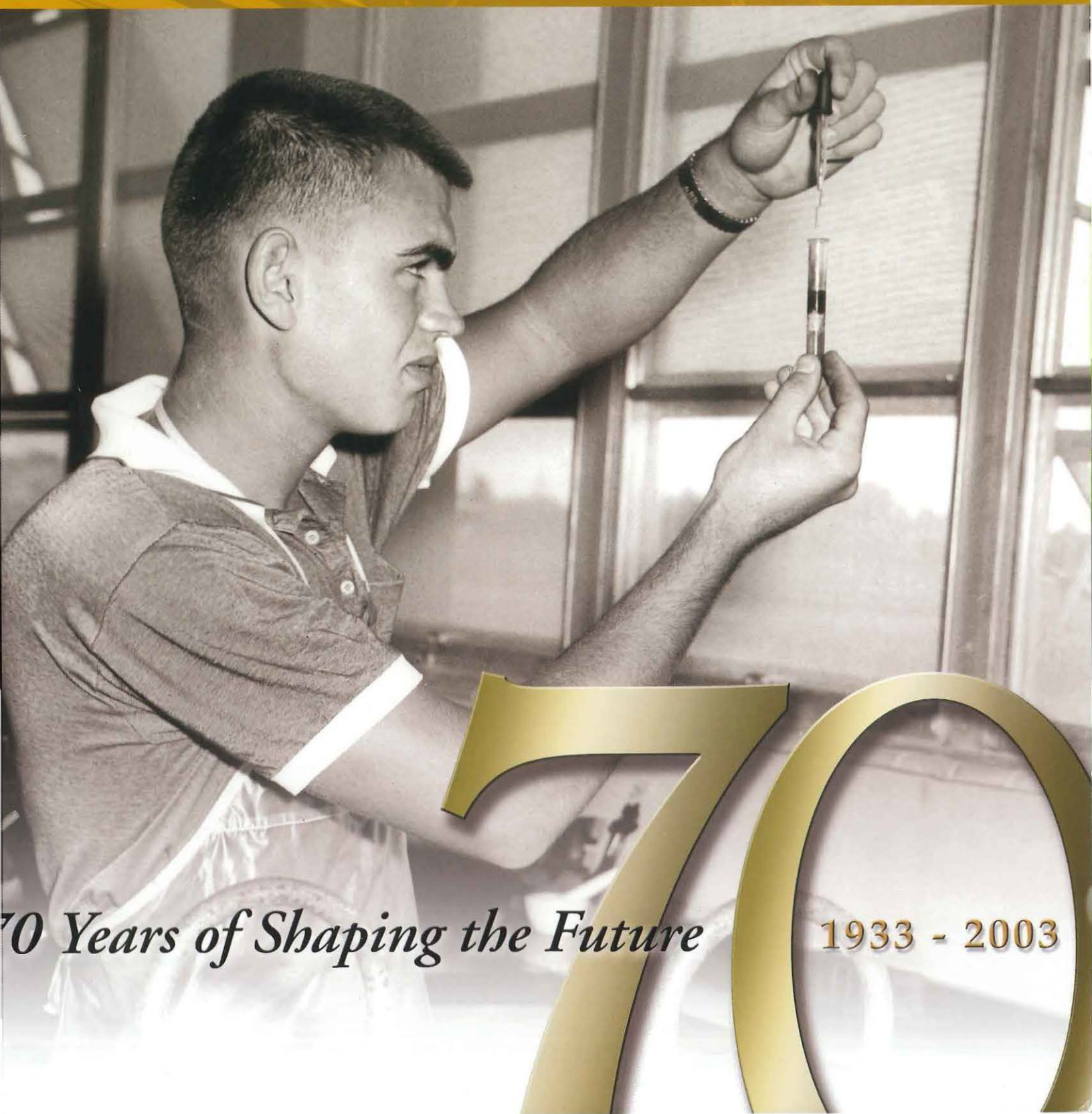


Contact

FOR THE FRIENDS
OF PALM BEACH
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Vol. 11, No. 2 SPRING 2003



70 Years of Shaping the Future

1933 - 2003



Dear Friend of PBCC,

We take special pride in our unique role as Florida's first public community college. The theme of our anniversary observance this year, "70 Years of Shaping the Future," reminds us that our forward-looking approach is also our legacy at Palm Beach Community College.

In this issue of *Contact*, you can trace the institution's history as a junior college with a quiet beginning that has grown into a comprehensive, multi-campus institution serving more than 47,000 students annually. Strong community partnerships supported this extraordinary development and expansion, and this same type of collaboration fuels our successes today.

I invite you to take a few minutes to read about some of these partnerships. The College's leadership in improving child care, for example, stems from the support of local coalitions, foundations and state agencies. We are united by the recognition that the earliest years are critical to the long-term educational success of our youngest residents. Similarly, the faculty, staff and students of our College are forging close bonds with local elementary schools, supporting them and their students in innovative, individualized ways.

As our enrollment growth continues, we are steadfast in our mission to prepare all of our students for future success. Yesterday, today and tomorrow, we are your community college, and this community is our campus.

Sincerely,

Dennis P. Gallon

Dennis P. Gallon, Ph.D.

President

www.pbcc.edu

Palm Beach Community College, a richly diverse comprehensive two-year institution with a history of achievement since 1933, is dedicated to serving the educational needs of the residents of Palm Beach County by providing the associate in arts, associate in science and associate in applied science degrees, professional certificates, workforce development and lifelong learning.

The Mission

of Palm Beach Community College is to provide an accessible and affordable education through a dedicated and knowledgeable faculty and staff, a responsive curriculum and a strong community partnership, which together will enable students to think critically, demonstrate leadership, develop ethical standards and compete effectively in the global workplace.



Contact

PBCC PRESIDENT

Dennis P. Gallon, Ph.D.

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Palm Beach Community College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone number 404-679-4501) to award the associate in arts and associate in science degrees.

Palm Beach Community College is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status or sexual orientation.

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PRIDE IS SHOWING!

at the second year in its new magazine format. Contact has won two prestigious national communication awards.

National Council for Marketing and Public Relations honored Contact with a first-place Gold Paragon Award, naming it from a national field of publications. Contact has also received an Award of Merit in national judging for the Admissions Marketing Report.



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Contact

Expect
more...



Early learning initiatives transforming child care

BY TONI WOLF

As the brain grows, so goes the nation... making the smallest among us the most powerful.

Neuroscientists have learned that when infants and toddlers live in a stimulating environment, their incredibly fertile brains physically grow larger. The young brain, especially from birth to age three, has its greatest potential to make neural connections that will last for life. The richer the stimulating environment, the richer (and larger) the child's brain. The opposite, of course, is true, too.

"How responsive a caregiver is strongly determines how well children develop their social skills, cognitive abilities, physical and motor skills, language skills and ultimately, their ability to take care of themselves, i.e., independence," said Terry Liddell, project director for preschool mentoring at Palm Beach Community College.

With two-thirds of the nation's preschool children in some kind of child care, the brain research has resounded throughout the early childhood education community. In Europe, many countries pay their early childhood teachers the same as kindergarten through 12th grade instructors; some require preschool teachers to have master's degrees. In the United States, child care workers and preschool teachers rarely have bachelor's or associate degrees and make minimum wage, if that. The average hourly wage in Florida is \$6.95 for a child care worker, \$8.30 for a preschool teacher. Child development experts say we are squandering our greatest resource.

"It's important for the public to understand that child care is different from babysitting," Liddell said. "Child care teaching is an evolving profession with a core body of knowledge based on research that is critical to society."

Upgrading the profession

Florida passed the School Readiness Act in 1999 to consolidate the child care subsidy funding for low-income parents. The School Readiness Coalition and the Children's Services Council (a special taxing district to improve children's services in Palm Beach County) have awarded grants to PBCC to improve the quality of child care in the county by strengthening the professional development of caregivers.

Mentor Karen Darter (right) and child care professionals at the Bright Ideas center in Belle Glade plan activities to promote self-directed learning.



Child care veterans (13 mentors funded by the School Readiness Act plus six more from the private Picower Quality Child Care Initiative) focus on how teachers relate to their students by sharing the High/Scope curriculum.

"The single most important factor in quality care is the relationship between the child and the caregiver. The higher the level of skill, experience, expertise and education of the caregiver, the greater is the likelihood of increased positive outcomes for children," said Roanne Moreno, Ed.D., PBCC's director of Early Learning Services.

Revolutionizing learning

The High/Scope curriculum is a broad departure from the teacher-directed methods used by most teachers, from preschool to the university. Based on "active learning," High/Scope revolutionizes the way children learn. Active learning is the concept that children learn best through active experiences rather than through direct teaching or sequenced exercises.

"In this method of instruction, there's a balance between adult – and child – initiated learning," explained Darcy Russo, PBCC's education coordinator for High/Scope.

"You have to create a program to fit the child, not the child to fit the program. High/Scope is about maximizing the full potential of a human being and the best way to do it."

For example, a teacher-directed method for learning the alphabet would involve writing the letter on the board along with words that begin with that letter, having the children say the words aloud together, then giving children a handout with the letter to color within the lines. High/Scope teachers might give a child a packet of letters and ask, "What can you do



ROANNE MORENO, Ed.D.
Director, Early Learning Services



TERRY LIDDELL
Project Director for Preschool Mentoring



DARCY RUSSO
Education Coordinator for High/Scope

with these?" Children find learning the alphabet meaningful and relevant to them when they begin to recognize and write letters of their names, or perhaps a classmate's name, or even a favorite phrase such as, "Mommy, I love you." They are intrinsically motivated to learn and write letters to communicate with the people in their world.

High/Scope instructors are guides who arrange the environment and schedule and only direct when appropriate, Liddell said.

"We're as interested in children learning conflict resolution and problem solving skills and being kind to one another as we are having children recognize the alphabet and know their numbers," Dr. Moreno said. "Children whose preschool experiences are academically directed may show short term academic gains,

but these gains do not last, and by about the fifth grade these children are earning significantly lower grades than children who attended child-initiated preschool programs.

"It appears that pushing children too soon may backfire when children are not given early opportunities to take responsibility for their own learning. The open-ended curriculum appears to develop the love of learning and gives children skills for life."

"The old methods of teaching are robbing children of the opportunities to be actively involved in the learning process – to make choices, ask questions, solve problems and

become independent thinkers," Russo added. "High/Scope allows children to experience their world by interacting with materials, people, ideas and events."

"This represents a whole paradigm shift and requires huge leaps for (preschool) teachers," said Jeanne Keiller, one of PBCC's mentors. Other mentors report that teachers' efforts to switch from a "teacher knows best" approach to a child-oriented interaction style continues to be a challenge.

Teaching that transforms society

High/Scope was chosen because it is one of the few early childhood curricula with longitudinal studies that prove its efficacy, Dr. Moreno said. In just one of several long-term studies, the High/Scope Preschool Curriculum Comparison Study began following the lives of 68 young people born in poverty who were randomly assigned at ages 3 and 4 to different methods of instruction. The results are nothing short of alarming for traditional teaching methods.

The "Direct Instruction" or teacher-directed group had significantly higher rates of:

- treatment during their schooling for emotional disturbances
- felony arrests and arrests for property crime
- 10 or more acts of misconduct
- the perception that people "gave them a hard time"
- suspensions from work.

On the other hand, in the various longitudinal studies that compare teaching methods, the self-initiated learners had significantly higher high school graduation and college attendance rates, higher earnings, more home and car ownership, fewer single parent families, fewer crimes, including those that were drug-related, higher rates of volunteerism and higher rates of marriages.

For more information on High/Scope, go to www.highscope.org

PBCC is developing:

- an articulated career ladder (see next page)
- a training clearing house
- a training approval system
- a professional development registry
- scholarships for caregivers
- use of a curriculum that incorporates the latest research and best practices
- a mentoring program in low-income centers

PBCC mentor Monique Wilkinson (left) shares her expertise with Kiddie Haven's Assistant Director Casandra Denson.



At last, a career ladder and support for child care professionals

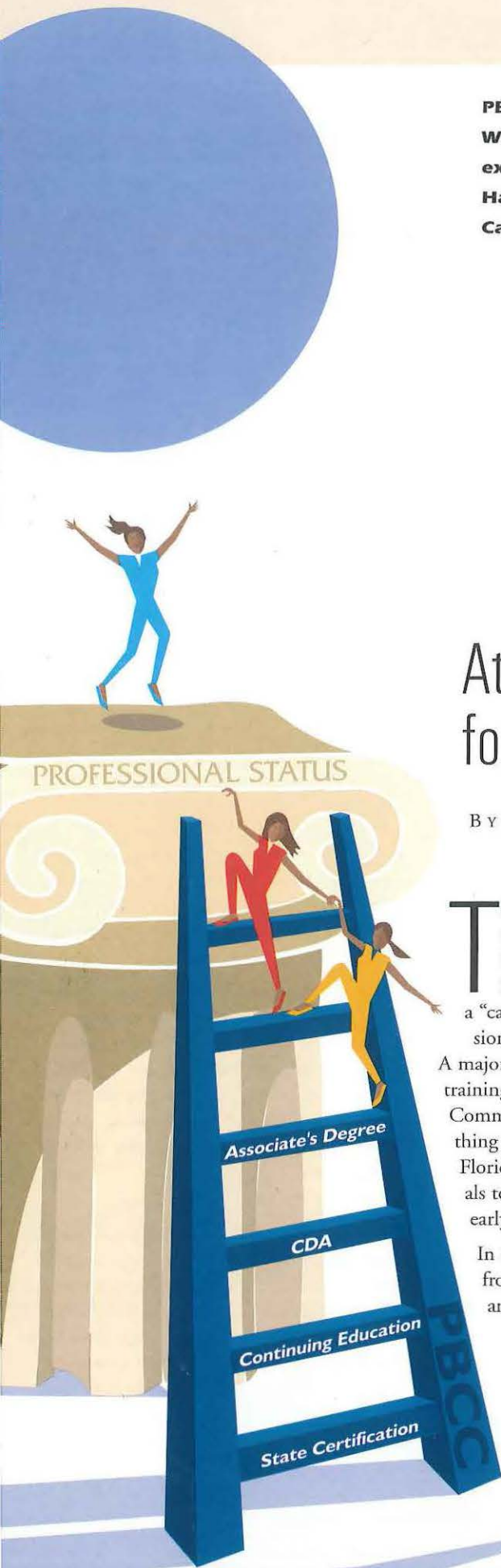
BY TONI WOLF

The people who care for our youngest children are some of the most important employees in the work force. Yet before now, the notion of a "career ladder" for child care professionals was just a notion, not a reality. A major player in entry-level child care training for over 30 years, Palm Beach Community College now offers everything from the 40-hour class required by Florida law for all child care professionals to an associate of science degree in early childhood education.

In addition, PBCC received a contract from Florida's Department of Children and Families (DCF) to offer and coordinate

all state required classes for child care professionals, whether offered at PBCC or another institution. PBCC offers child care classes at each of its four locations; last year it handled 7,000 registrations from the over 500 child care centers in the county. In addition to the 40-hour certification classes all workers must take, PBCC offers:

- Continuing education courses and workshops
- Coursework for child care center directors to earn their director credential
- The Child Development Associate (CDA) Florida Equivalency Certificate (taught by master's degree professors at PBCC)
- Family child care courses
- Florida School Age Credential certification training
- The associate in science degree in early childhood education, which can be specialized in infant/toddler, preschool, High/Scope, school age, Montessori and child care center management.



An institute for excellence: *one group to lead them all*

While Palm Beach Community College plays a major role in training child care workers in the county, it by no means operates in a vacuum. The College relies upon representatives from the child care community for guidance in the form of the Institute for Excellence in Early Care and Education. Formed in 1999, the Institute is an advisory group of child care professionals from Family Central, Inc., Head Start, the Palm Beach County School District, Florida Atlantic University, Nova Southeastern University and the University of Florida Extension Services, among others.

The school readiness grant the College has received for professional development has broadened the role of the Institute, said founder Roanne Moreno, Ed.D., the director of Early Learning Services at PBCC. While the mentors assist preschool teachers to improve their skills at selected sites, the Institute will plan and design the system of professional development with long-range strategies.

"The Institute looks at the professional development of people working with young children. This includes everything from designing a career lattice to increasing accessibility to training," Dr. Moreno said.

The CDA is a comprehensive, 122-hour program that will transfer nine college credit hours toward the A.S. degree. Having the CDA increases employability, says Judith Gummere, M.Ed., associate dean, workforce, early childhood education.

Gummere, who's responsible for all documented training for child care workers, said the number of credit course sections and enrollment has increased 100 percent in the last year.

"With the 'No Child Left Behind' program and other factors, awareness has grown," Gummere said.

Scholarships are available as well as plenty of moral support, Gummere said. "We need to give a lot of TLC at the entry level to encourage students to continue, so that they have the assurance that they can succeed. At PBCC, we're with them every step of the way."

That support extends to the child care centers at PBCC in Lake Worth and Palm Beach Gardens. The Lake Worth Center for Early Learning is a Montessori-based laboratory preschool and a training site

for students pursuing their A.S. degrees in early childhood education. Students from many disciplines observe the program, including future teachers for K-12, dental and nursing students, and students taking Human Growth and Development.

The Montessori site is not a child care center for the public, although

the Center for Early Learning in Palm Beach Gardens is. Priority is given to children of full-time, degree-seeking PBCC students who pay a reduced rate. The center serves children in the community plus children receiving subsidized care through Family Central, Inc. and Head Start, those who qualify for various grants for young parents who had children when they were in high school and parents who want higher education but can't afford it. The Palm Beach Gardens center, which teaches the High/Scope method of teaching, is an observation site for PBCC students as well. Besides preschool and school-age future teachers, the site attracts college diversity classes due to its widely diverse group of children. 

Denson laughs with her students at Kiddie Haven in Lake Worth.



70 Years of Shap

Palm Beach Community College 1933-2003



A determined community launched PBCC on a shoestring

BY TONI WOLF

Establishing Florida's first public two-year college in the depths of the Great Depression may have seemed like folly in 1933. Large government expenditures were out of the question. Still, local citizens and civic organizations lobbied the County Board of Public Instruction to open a two-year public college for the area's high school graduates who were unable to find employment and couldn't afford to leave home to attend a university.

County School Superintendent Joe Youngblood and Howell Watkins, principal of Palm Beach High School, asked the University of Florida for advice. Curricula for Palm Beach Junior College were based on

ng the Future



course offerings at UF and the Florida State Women's College in Tallahassee, which later became Florida State University. Because of the Depression-era budget, teachers at Palm Beach High School volunteered to teach at the college for free, something unheard of today.

Forty one students began classes at the new college adjacent to the high school in downtown West Palm Beach in the fall of 1933. Youngblood and Watkins (the first dean of the College) founded and nurtured the fledgling institution until John I. Leonard became PBCC's first president in 1937. Leonard was affectionately known as "Mr. Junior College."

By 1948, the College had outgrown its original building and moved to Morrison Field, a retired Air Force base used in World War II. PBJC's library was housed in a vast airplane hangar. Just three years later, though, the Korean Conflict erupted, and Morrison Field was needed by the government. The air base later became Palm Beach International Airport.

So in 1951 Palm Beach Junior College moved yet again, to Lake Park Town Hall, where the quarters were so cramped students had to be turned away. The local media dubbed it "*the little orphan college.*" Five years later the Palm Beach County Commission

continued next page

Trison Field

West Palm Beach

PALM BEACH JUNIOR COLLEGE

Lake Park



John I. Leonard

Harold C. Manor

Edward M. Eissey

Dennis P. Gallon

PBCC Presidents

donated 114 acres in Lake Worth, and the state gave PBJC \$1 million for buildings. The College had a permanent home. Harold C. Manor, Ph.D., became president in 1956, directing extraordinary growth in enrollment, staff, services and course offerings, including many technical and vocational programs.

The all-white Palm Beach Junior College merged with the all-black Roosevelt Junior College in 1965 at the height of the Civil Rights Movement. Some, but not all, Roosevelt professors were transferred to PBJC (others were transferred to the school district), and the scars on the African American community were acknowledged in a public ceremony last spring at the College. In the 1970s and 80s the College established satellite centers, then permanent locations in Belle Glade, Palm Beach Gardens and Boca Raton. Edward M. Eissey, Ph.D., president from 1978 to 1996, was the driving force behind the building boom and the impetus for a name change to Palm Beach Community College.

Current president Dennis P. Gallon, Ph.D., has expanded the College's comprehensive mission with more workforce programs, implemented a contemporary technology infrastructure within the institution and has established partnerships with business, industry, other educational institutions and various agencies so that PBCC is truly a community college that responds to community needs.

The history of the College and the story of the

four presidents who have guided it (yes, just four presidents in 70 years!) will be on display this year when PBCC celebrates its anniversary on Nov. 6, 2003. Participants will find out why the 30 graduates in 1946 were all women, and how one woman, Dolly Hand, and her friends established a location in the Glades and later, opened a theater that brought culture to that rural community. They'll see famous actors Burt Reynolds and Monte Markham on film describing their memories of Watson B. Duncan III, probably the most beloved and influential professor in the history of the College.

From a Sadie Hawkins dance to an anti-war protest, Palm Beach Community College has been a microcosm of American society. A 70th anniversary committee is capturing the oral history of PBCC by enlisting some of the College's current and retired faculty and staff and college alumni in a storytelling troupe being formed this spring.

The celebration will take place in the new Education and Training Center in Lake Worth with historical displays, antique cars, fashions and music from each decade. Refreshments and storytellers will round out the evening. Alumni, students, faculty and staff (current and retired) are invited. Additional details will be provided in the fall issue of *Contact*. To see wonderful old photos and learn more about the College, check the Web site at www.pbcc.edu/events/70th. 

Calling all to plan

Alumni who have memories to share, memorabilia and/or a pair of willing hands are invited to participate in preparing for the 70th anniversary celebration on Nov. 6, 2003.

**Send us your memories
for the College Web site**



The theme, "70 Years of Shaping the Future," emphasizes PBCC's educational mission. If you are an alumnus, we'd like to know how the College has shaped your life.

You may have memories of social events, academics, personalities or quirky tales like the time the Lake Worth campus flooded and the sidewalks were filled with catfish. Drop us an e-mail with your story, your name and the years you attended to crmarket@pbcc.edu. Your story will be posted on the "Memories" page of the anniversary Web site and also could be included in an anthology PBCC faculty will create. The anniversary Web site is www.pbcc.edu/events/70th. If you're not e-mail inclined, please send your stories to Palm Beach Community College, College Relations and Marketing, 4200 Congress Avenue, Lake Worth, Florida 33461.

**Join our troupe
of storytellers**



If you have interesting stories to tell and you're outgoing and gregarious, you could be part of the College storytelling troupe. Rotating members of the troupe will share their memories with PBCC students, faculty and staff this fall in lunchtime gatherings in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade or at the evening celebration on Nov. 6, 2003. (Each storyteller could attend once or more than once.) Alumni stories of your student experiences will be the most meaningful to current PBCC students, so please share in one way or another.

lumni

are in celebration



1 9 3 3 - 2 0 0 3

You're Invited!

Palm Beach Community College requests the honor of your presence at the celebration of "70 Years of Shaping the Future"

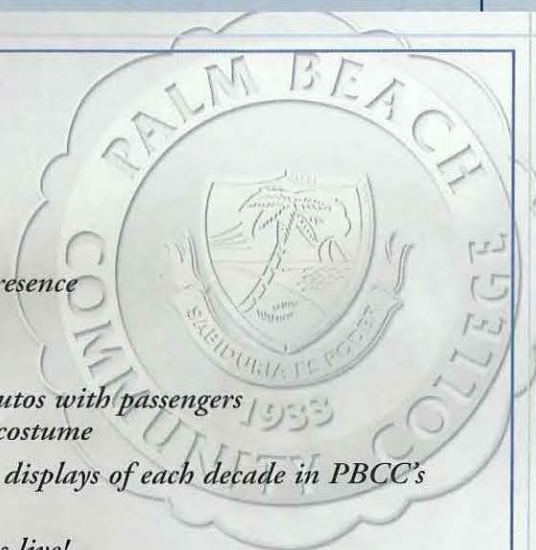
Celebrate! See former classmates,
Share your memories,
Enjoy the festivities

Where: *Education and Training Center
PBCC at Lake Worth
the southeast corner of Congress Ave.
and Lake Worth Rd.*

When: *November 6, 2003
4 pm to 7 pm*

- *Antique autos with passengers in period costume*
- *Historical displays of each decade in PBCC's past*
- *Storytellers live!*
- *Short films of PBCC history & storytellers*
- *Music from the seven decades by PBCC's talented music students*
- *Hors d'oeuvres and drinks*

An invitation to PBCC alumni



Storytellers will gather for their first gab sessions on April 24 from 6-8 p.m. and May 20 from 5-7 p.m. in the Faculty and Staff Lounge in the Cafeteria building on the Lake Worth campus, 4200 Congress Ave. These sessions will be videotaped for a future film and also may be included in an anthology. If you'd like to share some memories, you may e-mail Prof. Marcie Pachter at pachterm@pbcc.edu, or call committee chair Toni Wolf at (561) 868-3129 in Lake Worth.

Share your memorabilia and chronicle the past

Alumni involvement can take many forms. Do you have any PBCC memorabilia, such as an old textbook, registration form, photos, etc.? The fall celebration will include historical tables, organized by the decades, describing college life and events. If you'd love to go through old yearbooks and other

resources at the College to assist in preparing the historical tables, we'd love to have you. Contact Prof. Stafford Mooney at (561) 868-3339 (Lake Worth). If you have vintage clothing you're willing to lend PBCC, call Trina Wagnac at (561) 862-4335 (Boca Raton).

Storytellers gab sessions

April 24 6 - 8 pm
May 20 5 - 7 pm



Contact the College! www.pbcc.edu/events/70th

How to help	Who to contact	email / phone
Share memories	Prof. Marcie Pachter Toni Wolf	pachterm@pbcc.edu crmarket@pbcc.edu 561-868-3129
historical tables	Prof. Stafford Mooney	561-868-3339 Lake Worth
vintage clothing	Trina Wagnac	561-862-4335 Boca Raton

Adopt-a-School

BY TABATHA B. McDONALD

PBCC takes four elementary schools under its wings

Palm Beach Community College employees and students have opened their hands and their hearts to four of the county's elementary schools.

Through a college-wide initiative proposed by President Dennis Gallon, each campus has adopted a nearby elementary school. The schools are J.C. Mitchell Elementary in Boca Raton, Lincoln Elementary in Riviera Beach, Pioneer Park Elementary in Belle Glade and Heritage Elementary in Lake Worth.

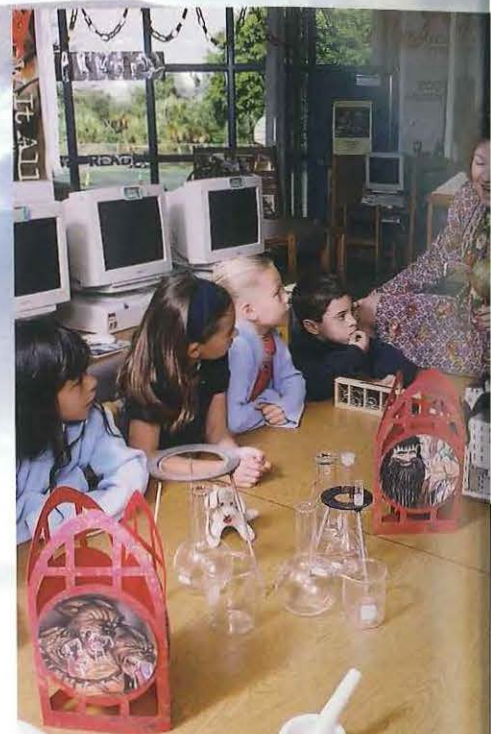
The PBCC campuses have provided everything for the children from school supplies and uniforms to cultural arts, social activities, books and tutoring. They also have provided support and gift incentives for the teachers. While each campus, under the leadership of the provost, has established activities and events to meet the individual school needs, the ultimate goal of the program is to foster long-term relationships.

"I wanted them to draw an imaginary line around their service area for that campus, identify a public school and work with it," Dr. Gallon said. "I wanted them to not limit it to supplying pencils and paper, but to work with the administration and the faculty to improve student achievement over a long period of time. We're trying to develop a collaborative relationship, an ongoing and substantial relationship."

The Adopt-a-School program has received tremendous buy-in from everyone involved. Student organizations have sponsored events to raise money for the schools and in some cases the communities have pitched in to help, too.

"It's been very positive," said Nancy Denholm, manager of the Eissey Campus Theatre, which has donated tickets to performances as a reward for teachers. "My heart has been warmed."

"It's really a wonderful program and a great way for neighborhood schools to use the college resources," said Loretta Schoen, an administrative assistant at PBCC in Boca Raton who tutors children twice a month at J.C. Mitchell Elementary School. "They can't get to college if they don't succeed in elementary school, middle school and high school." 



**J.C. MITCHELL ELEMENTARY
- BOCA RATON**

Celeste Beck, provost of PBCC at Boca Raton, entertains the children at J.C. Mitchell Elementary School where she delivered science lab supplies, computer software and other items donated by the college.

Carley Brader, Lauren and Alison Gebhard (left) learn the uses for each item.



LINCOLN ELEMENTARY - RIVIERA BEACH

Lincoln Elementary student Angel Jordan (right) watches closely as Jennifer Lewis, president of the Art Alliance student club at PBCC in Palm Beach Gardens, draws a dolphin for a mural that will be displayed at the school. Made with paperboards, the mural features a Florida theme of landscape, animals and trees.



HERITAGE ELEMENTARY - LAKE WORTH



Heritage Elementary School student Lizbeth Moya (left) checks out supplies, which are among many items donated by PBCC at Lake Worth, including school uniforms. Above, the choir from Heritage performs at the PBCC Celebrate America ceremony on the Lake Worth campus.



LINCOLN ELEMENTARY - RIVIERA BEACH



Shirley Cox, literacy coordinator at Lincoln Elementary, unpacks boxes of books in the school's literacy center. PBCC's Palm Beach Gardens campus has donated books, money and other items for the school.

Belle Glade Provost Helen Franke and Peggy Nelson, principal of Pioneer Park Elementary, seal with a handshake the new partnership between the schools.



Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center



Eissey Campus Theatre



Watson B. Duncan III Theatre



Theatres feed community's passion

W

BY DOREEN POREBA

here can you find three thriving theatres affiliated with one educational institution in Palm Beach County?

Only at Palm Beach Community College. Pick your gem:

- The Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center in Belle Glade,
- The Watson B. Duncan III Theatre in Lake Worth and
- The Eissey Campus Theatre in Palm Beach Gardens.

Each theatre serves PBCC and its diverse communities.

Three Great Theatres!

The College's cultural mission is to foster and develop the artistic potential of its students, area residents and visitors through traditional and contemporary professional and academic performing and visual arts programs and through the commission of new works.

PBCC's theater programs do many things – they reach out to the community, create partnerships, develop future audiences, encourage the imagination and so much more.

Audiences can choose from a number of professional series in an academic and cultural environment.

for the arts

The Duncan Theatre has acquired regional acclaim and national recognition for being the foremost contemporary theatre in South Florida, offering the latest in modern dance, ballet, new music, jazz, theatre and excellent traditional performing arts.

"The Duncan Theatre is not only a place to explore contemporary performing arts but also to have fun," said Duncan Theatre Manager Mark Alexander. "We continue to present diverse art forms that have been abandoned by other cultural centers. We strive to program performances that provide education connections for our students and foster greater cultural understanding within our community."

For 20 years, the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center, a 466-seat theatre, has made the world of the arts affordable and accessible for the community, including children. It's the only cultural, artistic and family entertainment center available on a continuing basis to the 35,000 year-round residents and 6,000 seasonal visitors in the Glades area of Western Palm Beach County and the communities surrounding Lake Okeechobee.

Programming includes drama, music, dance, lecture forums, festivals, art exhibits and community outreach and student activities. In addition, the Center offers programming for local school children through the CAFE (Cultural Arts

for Education) Series, serving more than 12,000 students per year.

According to Leigh Woodham, theatre manager of the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center, the CAFE Series has had a tremendous impact on the youth of the Glades communities. "For many of the students, this is their only opportunity to see a live performance," said Woodham. "This past year we established an endowment fund to provide free transportation to the schools and offer extremely low ticket prices. The demand has been so great that we've sometimes had to turn schools away."

Northern Palm Beach County's center for education and the arts, the Eissey Campus Theatre, is located on PBCC's beautifully wooded Eissey Campus in Palm Beach Gardens. This 750-seat professional facility presents a season of international artists in its Arts in the Gardens series, as well as regular performances by local professional companies such as Ballet Florida, the Palm Beach Opera, the Sunshine Pops, Gold Coast Opera and the Palm Beach Chamber Music Festival.

PBCC has an impact on the cultural community like no other Palm Beach County institution. In addition to theater performances, the College offers comprehensive classes on acting and stagecraft in addition to professional workshops with visiting artists. A summer program focuses on providing teens with a theater experience.



Generous supporters enrich the arts through direct contributions to any or all of the three theatres or to their endowment funds, managed by the PBCC Foundation. "Funding goes directly to support programming - not the light bill and salaries," said Nancy Denholm, manager of the Eissey Campus Theatre. For more information on support opportunities, contact the PBCC Foundation at (561) 868-3450.



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

PSYCHOLOGY PROFESSOR WORKED GLOBALLY TO ADVANCE HUMAN RIGHTS

BY TONI WOLF

Barbara Matthews arrived at her alma mater, Palm Beach Community College, in 1967 to begin her teaching career. Students and faculty were divided into hawks and doves over the Vietnam War. But the direction the psychology professor's fight for justice would take was galvanized more by the lives of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Gloria Steinem.

Spurred by the Brown vs. Board of Education Supreme Court decision and Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech, Prof. Matthews, who had worked in government and broadcasting in Washington, D.C., earned her bachelor's degree in political science with an internship in psychology. She also earned a master's degree in guidance counseling and a doctoral degree in educational psychology.



Professor Barbara Matthews (above right) has taught at Palm Beach Community College since 1967. Prof. Matthews invited Gloria Steinem to speak during the College's Diversity Days in November 2000.

"Civil rights spoke to me as a person and gave me a direction," she said.

In the mid 60s Prof. Matthews conducted a study with recommendations on school desegregation in Palm Beach County. In the late 60s she overcame opposition to establish a program in early childhood education and the Montessori-based Center for Early Learning on the Lake Worth campus.

In 1970 she heard Gloria Steinem speak. "She blew me out of the room," she recalled. "She gave names to things I had always thought and felt. It was a great 'Aha' experience."

As an active member in international women's rights organizations, Dr. Matthews also participated in the First National Men and Masculinity Conference in 1974 and includes the men's movement in the Feminist Psychology course she established in 1975—the first in the nation. She was a delegate to the First International Women's Research Conference in Montreal in 1982, an NGO (non-governmental organization) delegate to the United Nations Women's Conference in 1985 in Nairobi and a presenter at the First Sino-American Women's Issues Conference in Beijing in 1990. She returned as an NGO delegate to Beijing in 1995 for the largest gathering of women activists in history, the U.N. World Conference on Women. She lobbied, marched and held vigils in Tallahassee for the Equal Rights Amendment. Today she teaches a class in diversity.

"Civil rights and women's rights share a long,



common history," Dr. Matthews said. "The first feminists were abolitionists."

Many of today's young women, she said, come to her classes "thinking their mothers fixed everything...but it's still a real challenge...After correcting a lot of mistaken ideas, I can get them to see that what it's really about is how we can enhance and improve all our lives so that we're fully functioning human beings."

After spending two years as a PBCC student and 36 years as a professor here, Dr. Matthews will retire this spring. She reflected upon a lifetime being a pioneer for human rights.

"It's been a real privilege to make this kind of contribution in this historical period," she said.

Brain Bowl team advances to state

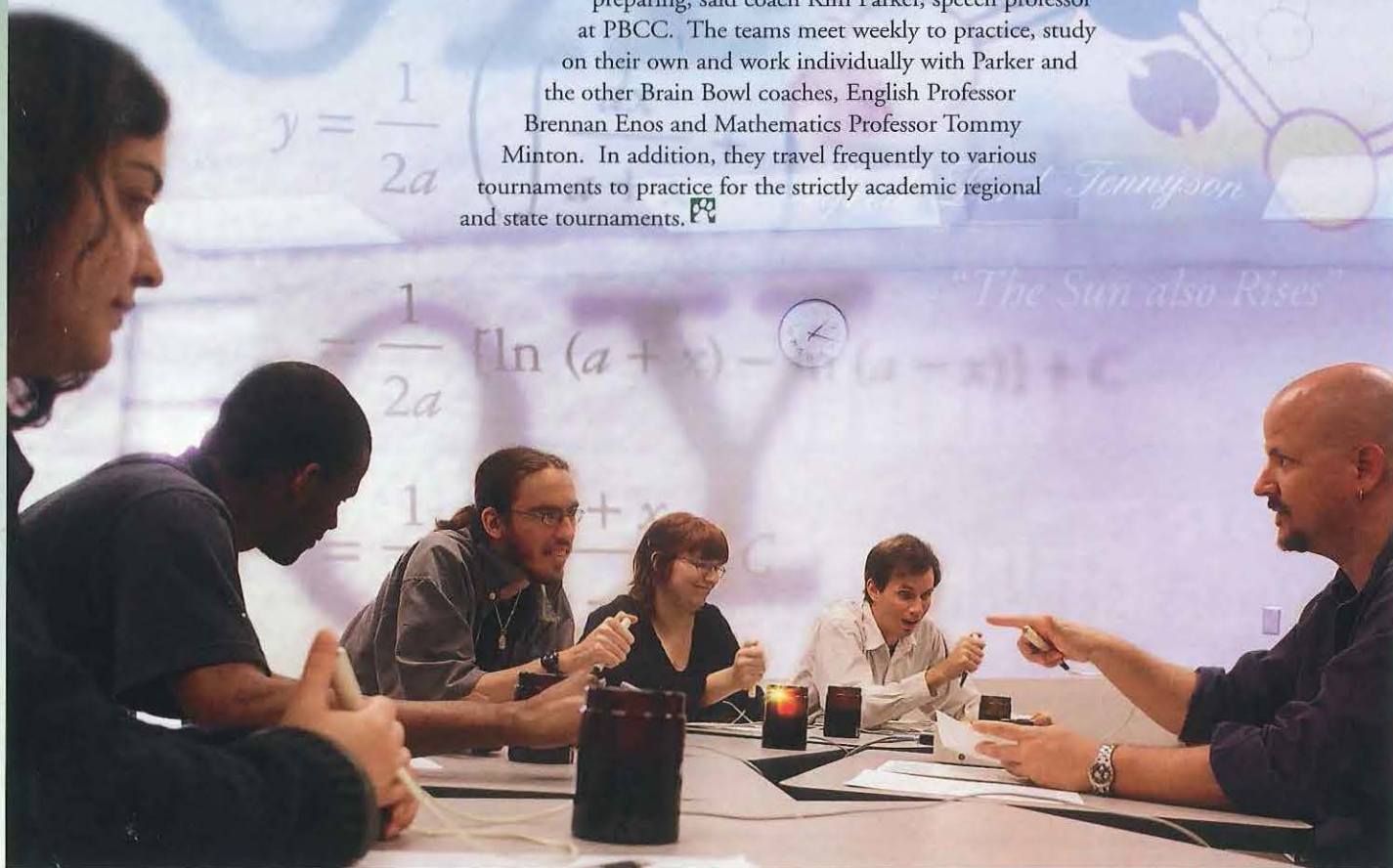
Five students on PBCC's Brain Bowl team at Palm Beach Community College qualified in the regional tournament in Key West this February to compete against Brain Bowl teams across the state. This will be the first state competition for a PBCC Brain Bowl team.

Team members are Adella Irizzary from Lake Worth, team captain; Jaelynn Bright from Lake Worth; Denzil Jackson from West Palm Beach; Joe Richardson from West Palm Beach and Sean Rickmeyer from Lake Worth. Rickmeyer had the fifth highest individual score at the regional tournament and placed in the top ten during the national qualifier.

The Jeopardy-like Brain Bowl tournaments are so fierce that students must spend considerable time preparing, said coach Kim Parker, speech professor at PBCC. The teams meet weekly to practice, study on their own and work individually with Parker and the other Brain Bowl coaches, English Professor Brennan Enos and Mathematics Professor Tommy Minton. In addition, they travel frequently to various tournaments to practice for the strictly academic regional and state tournaments.

Brain Bowl

2003 Regional Champion



During a practice for the state competition, the champion Brain Bowl Team members "buzz in" with answers. From left to right; Adella Irizzary and Denzil Jackson (both also in inset photo), Joe Richardson, Jaelynn Bright and Sean Rickmeyer. Professor Brennan Eñós asks the questions and lights up the correct response.

CULTURAL ARTS

Duncan Theatre

PBCC at Lake Worth, 4200 Congress Ave.
Box Office (561) 868-3309

- Apr. 5 "Charlotte's Web"
- Apr. 9 Chamber Orchestra Kremlin
- Apr. 12 "Ashes on the Sea"
- Apr. 29 "I Never Saw Another Butterfly"
performed in recognition of Yom HaShoah

Eissey Campus Theatre

PBCC at Palm Beach Gardens
3160 PGA Blvd.
Box Office (561) 207-5900

- Apr. 3 "Maurice & Me" starring Tony Sandler

Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center

PBCC at Belle Glade
1977 College Drive
Box Office (561) 993-1160

- Apr. 11 Sandy Duncan Celebrates Broadway
- April 26 Red Riding Hood

All artists, dates and times subject to change.



"Ashes on the Sea"

Student Musical Productions

Duncan Theatre

For information, call (561) 868-3270;
for tickets, call (561) 868-3309

- Apr. 1 High School Jazz Festival
- Apr. 9 Jazz Trombone Ensemble
- Apr. 10 12 O'Clock Jazz Ensemble
- Apr. 16 Jazz Combos
- April 22 Concert Band
- April 27 Sophomore Recital

Stage West

- April 28 Concert Chorus & Troubadours
"Vocal Music of the Americas"

Student Theater Productions

The PBCC Division of Humanities
and the PBCC Players present

- Apr. 10-12, "Conflict"
24-26 A movement and dance performance created
by PBCC students based on the current Middle
East conflict
- June 6 - 7, An Evening with Eugene Ionesco
13-14
- June 5 - 7, Two One-Act Comedies; "The Bald Soprano"
12-14 & "The Lesson"

Call (561) 868-3316 for information or go online and click
on News and Events

www.pbcc.edu/arts



SPORTS PBCC

Panthers Schedule SPRING 2003

MEN'S BASEBALL

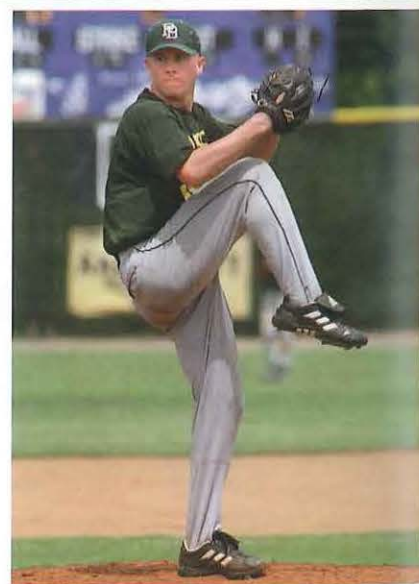
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|----------|----|--------------|
| APRIL 1 | @ | MIAMI DADE |
| APRIL 2 | VS | MIAMI DADE |
| APRIL 8 | VS | INDIAN RIVER |
| APRIL 9 | @ | INDIAN RIVER |
| APRIL 11 | VS | BROWARD |
| APRIL 12 | @ | BROWARD |
| APRIL 15 | VS | MIAMI DADE |
| APRIL 16 | @ | MIAMI DADE |

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

- | | | |
|----------|----|-----------------|
| APRIL 3 | VS | MIAMI DADE |
| APRIL 8 | @ | BREVARD |
| APRIL 13 | VS | HILLSBOROUGH |
| APRIL 23 | VS | NORTHWOOD UNIV. |

For a complete schedule, see our Web site:

www.pbcc.edu/sports



PBCC grad shines as Prudential Financial's youngest associate



LINA BLANCO

Now 22 years old, Blanco speaks fluent English. She is the youngest financial services associate ever hired at Prudential Financial's West Palm Beach office and currently the company's youngest financial services associate in the country.

"Very few people in that young age bracket have the drive, determination or the unselfishness to want to help people," said Bennett Leace, manager of financial services at Prudential Financial. He said he sensed something different in Blanco, that she would be perfect for the job when he hired her in July 2002. "I knew right from the start because of her background and all that she's been able to accomplish in the short period of time that she's been in this country. She convinced me how she feels about people, and I took a chance. It was the best chance I've ever taken," Leace said, noting that Blanco has consistently reached the Ace Tier, the highest level of production that new associates can achieve.

Blanco said because of all of the support she has received, she is dedicated to giving back to the community and helping others. She volunteers her time every Monday through Thursday evening, giving motivational speeches to students at the Adult Education

Center, where she also attended for about a month to get help with her English.

She also volunteers and has adopted 22 children at the Hispanic Human

Resources Council, Inc., a nonprofit organization that provides social services to low income fami-

lies, including a preschool. Last Halloween she bought and donated 150 costumes for children at Heritage Elementary School in Lake Worth and the Hispanic Human Resources Council.

"Thank God that I have educated myself," Blanco said. "The fact that I had to work so hard for it makes me more focused on being there for the community. Sometimes you're so frustrated. I don't want these people to give up." ■

BY TABATHA B. McDONALD

When Lina Blanco left Colombia, South America three and a half years ago to join her mother and younger brother in Palm Beach County, she only knew one sentence in English: "I'm willing to learn if you show me how."

With those nine words Blanco went door-to-door in upscale neighborhoods seeking odds-and-ends work before finally meeting a woman who gave her a gardening job at her Palm Beach home. "I needed to support my family. I didn't have any money and I wanted to go to school and further my education," Blanco said.

That was the beginning of many opportunities in the U.S. for Blanco, who worked that job and later took on two others to help support her family and pay for her full-time studies at Palm Beach Community College. She did all of that while also trying to learn English.

"It was hard for me," said Blanco, who took as many as six classes at a time. "It was not about having to go to school, but it was the language issue. That was the biggest barrier that I had to go through. I would have to take my book word by word and translate into Spanish. I would take three hours translating one page. Then I'd read it in Spanish and say,

'This doesn't make sense.' It was a nightmare. Every night I would go home crying."

But Blanco kept studying, her mind set on finishing her degree as quickly as possible. "I wanted to succeed. I just had to learn the language so that I could pass my classes," Blanco, who became a member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society, received her associate in arts degree with academic distinction in May 2002.

She said PBCC created an affordable opportunity and a nurturing environment for her to fulfill her "biggest dream ever" of enrolling in college in the United States.

"I'm very, very thankful for PBCC because it is a great institution," said Blanco, who worked at the College as a student assistant and later a part-time office assistant. "It's not PBCC. It's the people at PBCC – the professors, the individuals. PBCC for me was an inspiration."

Alumni Corner

Expect more. Success Stories.



RICHARD MACHEEK
FLORIDA HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES



DEIDRE HALL
ACTRESS



JUAN WILLIAMS
OWNER, AGENT
STATE FARM INSURANCE AGENCY



ANNE GANNON
FLORIDA HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

PBCC: Endless Possibilities

At some point in their lives, each of these outstanding individuals took advantage of the educational offerings at Palm Beach Community College. Whether they took classes to help them in their careers or earned their associate's degrees, their experiences at PBCC have helped them to realize their full potential. Perhaps you are a success story that we haven't heard? Please contact us at crmarket@pbcc.edu.

PBCC Locations

PBCC at Belle Glade
1977 College Drive

PBCC at Boca Raton
3000 Saint Lucie Avenue

PBCC at Lake Worth
4200 Congress Avenue

PBCC at Palm Beach Gardens
3160 PGA Boulevard

561-967-PBCC

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